Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the title of the application to: METHOD FOR APPLYING ELECTROLYTE IN THE MANUFACTURE OF A BATTERY

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 1 is a schematic of a system for low velocity, small droplet spray application of materials in battery manufacture;

Fig. 2 is a cross-section of an ultrasonic nebulizer;

Figs. [[3-3E]] 3, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D and 3E are cross-sectional side views illustrating battery manufacture using application of materials as a spray;

Figs. [[4-4F]] 4, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 4F are cross-sectional side views illustrating another embodiment of battery manufacture; and

Figs. [[5-5B]] 5, 5A and 5B are end-on views illustrating another embodiment of battery manufacture[[;]].

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

The film-forming material may be, for example, as described in commonly-assigned Treger et al., "Alkaline Cell with Improved Separator", USSN 09/280,367, filed March 29, 1999, now abandoned, the entire contents of which is incorporated herein by reference. Preferred materials include polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) solutions which form a hydrogel film by viscosity increase that occurs when the solvent evaporates and/or can be thickened by application of a second component that is an acid solution, such as KOH electrolyte, which swells the PVA causing gellation.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to Figs 5-5B, the application of a material, in this example, a film-forming material, to a non-cylindrical battery surface, here a cathode, is illustrated. The cathode may define lobe-shaped cavities as described in commonly-assigned U.S. Patent No. 6,342,317 ~~USSN 09/358,578, filed July 21, 1999~~ by Bhopendra K. Patel et al. and entitled "Battery", the entire contents of which is hereby incorporated by reference. The cathode 60, in a can 10, has an undulating lobe shape including regions 62 that are closer to the battery axis 61 and regions 64 more distantly spaced from the axis.